

shook the original group to the core. Ernest Carroll, Jr. died in combat during the invasion of Europe. His father was serving in the Marines in the Pacific, and was sent home and eventually discharged following the death of his son. Bill Beaty was in the Philippines, fighting not only the enemy but tropical diseases which would plague him for the remainder of his life. He would not join the station until 1946.

Jim Beaty said that the next six months seemed like an eternity. "It was slow. First we had to get a building . . . we had to get a fellow to modify the building to house the transmitter." Once the station was transmitting, it was time to build a staff. Jim Beaty brought in Al Drew from Roanoke Rapids, Virginia, to help him set up the station and train the announcing staff.

First hired was Bob Carroll, a local high school student and assistant manager of the local theater who had singing experience. One of his teachers contacted Drew, who auditioned Carroll and gave him the job. Carroll's only previous radio experience was singing with the Winthrop College choir as a boy soprano on WSOC during the late 1930s.

Jim Beaty was concerned about more than just getting a signal on the air. Before the official sign on, the station ran numerous test programs from midnight until 6 a.m. to test the equipment and more. "We ran full occupational capacity, we ran 15 minute shows, 30 minute shows, the widest diversity you could think of, everything from disc jockey shows to religious shows to interview shows, anything you could think of to give us the background experience before we went on the air." Carroll felt that Al Drew was a key element to the success of the basics of good radio broadcasting.

Despite the death of his son, Ernest Carroll continued to help with the station. "When I got back and had not been discharged from the Marine Corps, I would drive up here from Beaufort—Paris Island—and for several months I kept listening when I'd come up . . . I knew what the frequency was going to be and hoping to hear it on the air. Actually, it was several months after I got up here (after my discharge) before we signed on." If his son could not be a part of the station, at least Ernest Carroll could see his son's dream come true.

December 14, 1944 was a bitter cold day. The staff arrived by 5 a.m. and awaited the 5:30 a.m. sign on. Al Drew asked Bob Carroll if he'd like to sign the station on for the first time. "I was so thrilled. He was so gracious to do that, to have a young greenhorn come in and sign the station on was just prodigious. When Al signaled me, I threw the switch and said, this is WRHI in Rock Hill, South Carolina, 1340 on your radio dial, signing on for the first time."

The staff understood that they were making history, but they also kept in mind the times. "It was a very poignant sign on, because at that time there were still troops all over the world, and we were telling the listening population that we were remembering the men that were fighting on foreign shores all over the world, and wishing the best for them, and that the war would soon be over and things would come back to normal."

At sign on, Jim Beaty was at the transmitter, and in the control room that morning was Al Drew, Fred Lowery, and Bob Carroll. As soon as they signed on, they started their normal schedule.

Ernest Carroll remembered the first day of broadcasting. "I remembered the dedication ceremony quite well. We had special programs . . . had a good friend of mine from Fort Mill who was an expert pianist, and he played 'Danny Boy' for me. The station was dedicated to the boys who had lost their lives in the Second World War. That was the

theme of it. Of course to me, that was really important. We got a lot of comment, publicity, and a good many people were kind enough to complement me on my dedication address . . . which I made over there and dedicated the station . . . The war was fresh then, you know . . . to those loss of lives. We had a good many here in Rock Hill who lost their lives in the Second World War.

"You know how wars are, like the little boy sliding down the roof and saying, 'God, don't let me say it, don't let me fall . . .'" People are very much that way, you know . . . they forget very quickly and for several years now . . . they don't believe George Washington slept here and all that kind of thing, then when the war comes against the military people are very prominent . . . right now they are held almost in contempt."

When the station signed on, WRHI was independent, and filling the air time "ran us ragged". Later the station joined the Mutual Network before switching to CBS and finally ABC. Most of the programming was live and local, since transportation was expensive and rare. Most important were the early morning programs, focused on the listeners in the then predominately agricultural and textile community.

"It was a wonderful proving ground for a young man starting in radio, because you did get such a wide diversity of programs. You had to learn to do a little bit of everything."

Fifty years later, WRHI continues to serve the community. In an age of AM stations loosing focus and going under, the current ownership took a hard look at Jim Beaty's original dream and realized that he was right. WRHI has remained a station that focuses on Rock Hill and serves the community. He understood his home town then, and made certain that the staff understood as well.

Bob Carroll spent his career in broadcasting, both radio and television. Yet one of the things he learned at WRHI stayed with him. Jim Beaty told him, never underestimate your audience. This is really true, and I think today that too many people do that.

Jim Beaty remained involved with WRHI until it was sold in the mid 1970s. Brother Bill returned from the war and handled the business side of the operation. Ernest Carroll and his wife, Virginia, sold their interest in 1947 to Harper Gault, a local newspaper writer. Years later, Carroll still regrets selling out, and considers his involvement with establishing WRHI as one of his significant achievements in a life filled with success in business.

While WRHI ranks as a pioneer broadcaster, it represents more than just another radio station. It is the fulfillment of one man's dreams and a community's needs. The technology and programming have changed, but the basic thrust of serving the community has not. What made WRHI a success in 1944 continues to carry the station into its second half-century.

THE TRAGEDY OF LIBYAN CHILDREN INFECTED BY HIV/AIDS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, nearly six years ago 427 Libyan children were reported infected with the human immunodeficiency virus HIV in the al-Fatih Hospital in Benghazi, and more than 10 percent of these children have subsequently died. This is a tragedy of immense proportions.

Of course, this situation is best known in the context of the outrageous case that was brought against five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor, who were falsely accused of infecting these children. These six individuals have now been convicted and sentenced to death, and on many occasions I and others of our colleagues have spoken out against this verdict and urged Libyan leaders to overturn this miscarriage of justice.

On this occasion, however, Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my deepest condolences to the Libyan families whose children have died from AIDS as a result of being inadvertently infected by HIV. I would also like to offer my deep and heart-felt sympathy to the families of those children who continue to suffer from HIV/AIDS. The most expert, objective investigation suggests that the cause of this human tragedy was sloppy hospital procedure, but my purpose here is not to assign blame but to shed tears.

Mr. Speaker, we must be able to separate our deep unhappiness about the verdict against the five nurses and one doctor from our deep sadness over the horrendous tragedy that befell these Libyan children. The lives of these children and their families have been changed irrevocably by this tragedy. Not the least aspect of this horror is the resulting social ostracism incurred in a highly traditional society. For example, many of these children have been forced to drop out of school because of local ignorance about the HIV virus.

In this regard, I want to commend the U.S. Liaison Office, USLO, in Tripoli and Chief of Mission Greg Bery for giving thoughtful attention to this issue. For example, USLO has brought leading AIDS authorities to Benghazi from the United States to advise the Libyans on AIDS treatment and related issues.

We must remain committed to helping win the freedom of the five nurses and one doctor who have been unfairly charged and punished for a crime they did not commit. But at the same time we must keep in mind and in our hearts the children and their families who have unfairly suffered this tragic fate which they did not deserve. I support the efforts of the USLO in Tripoli to ameliorate their pain and heal them, and I intend to work with the Administration to explore means to redouble those efforts in the weeks and months ahead.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAY WILLIAMS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to mourn the passing of Kay Williams from Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Kay recently passed away at the age of ninety this past Monday. She was known for her strong, independent will, unique sense of humor and avid enthusiasm for sports. As her family and friends mourn this loss, I believe it is appropriate to remember Kay and pay tribute to her memory before this body of Congress and Nation today.

Kay was born in Ontario, Canada, and educated in Windsor, Toronto and Florence, Italy. Her family often spent the winter months of the year in Naples, Florida, fishing for mangrove snapper, grouper and pompano. During